

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

Sub A) 1. A document scanning apparatus for scanning a document, generating image data, and storing this image data in specified storage means, comprising:

5 first scanning means for sequentially transporting documents mounted in a specified document tray to a specified scan position and scanning said document at said scan position;

10 second scanning means for scanning a document placed on a specified document glass plane without transporting this document;

continued specification acceptance means for accepting a specification for one of document scan continuation and completion after one of scan operations for all documents mounted in said document tray through said first scanning means and for said document placed on said document glass plane through said second scanning means;

15 scan method selection means for responding to an acceptance of continued document scan specification by this continued specification acceptance means, selecting one of said first scanning means and said second scanning means according to a specified specification, and allowing selected scanning means to start scanning documents; and

25 storage control means for storing generated image data as for a series of documents in said storage

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means, wherein a scan operation by said first scanning means and said second scanning means generates image data until said continued specification acceptance means accepts a specification to complete scanning documents.

2. The document scanning apparatus according to claim 1, wherein said continued specification acceptance means accepts a specification whether to continue scanning documents based on a specified suspension instruction also in response to a suspended scan operation performed by one of said first scanning means and said second scanning means.

3. The document scanning apparatus according to claim 1, wherein there is provided mode changeover means which validates operations of said continued specification acceptance means, said scan method selection means, and said storage control means only when a specified special mode is enabled for said first scanning means and said second scanning means for scanning a series of documents.

4. The document scanning apparatus according to claim 1, wherein there are provided conditional specification acceptance means which accepts a specification of a specified scan condition when said continued specification acceptance means awaits a specification whether to continue scanning documents; and

condition setup means which allows one of said first scanning means and said second scanning means to perform scanning under a scan condition updated by a specification most recently accepted by said conditional specification acceptance means when one of said first scanning means and said second scanning means performs document scanning in response to acceptance of a specification to continue scanning documents by said continued specification acceptance means.

5. A document scanning apparatus for scanning a document, generating image data, and storing this image data in specified storage means, comprising:

scanning means for scanning said document;

continued specification acceptance means for accepting a specification for one of document scan continuation and completion after termination of scanning of said document by this scanning means;

conditional specification acceptance means which accepts a specification of a specified scan condition when this continued specification acceptance means awaits a specification whether to continue scanning documents;

continued scan control means which allows said scanning means to start scanning documents under a scan condition updated by a specification most recently accepted by said conditional specification acceptance

means in response to acceptance of a specification to continue scanning documents by said continued specification acceptance means; and

storage control means for storing generated image data as for a series of documents in said storage means, wherein a scan operation by said scanning means generates image data until said continued specification acceptance means accepts a specification to complete scanning documents.

6. The document scanning apparatus according to claim 5, wherein said continued specification acceptance means accepts a specification whether to continue scanning documents based on a specified suspension instruction also in response to a suspended scan operation performed by said scanning means.

7. The document scanning apparatus according to claim 5, wherein there is provided mode changeover means which validates operations of said continued specification acceptance means, conditional specification acceptance means, continued scan control means, and said storage control means only when a specified special mode is enabled for said scanning means for scanning a series of documents.

8. A document scanning method of scanning a document, generating image data, and storing this image data in specified storage means by selectively using first scanning means for sequentially transporting

documents mounted in a specified document tray to
a specified scan position and scanning said document
at said scan position and second scanning means for
scanning a document placed on a specified document
5 glass plane without transporting this document,
comprising the steps of:

accepting a specification for one of document
scan continuation and completion after one of scan
operations for all documents mounted in said document
10 tray through said first scanning means and for said
document placed on said document glass plane through
said second scanning means;

responding to an acceptance of said continued
document scan specification, selecting one of
15 said first scanning means and said second scanning
means according to a specified specification, and
allowing selected scanning means to start scanning
documents; and

storing generated image data as for a series of
20 documents in said storage means, wherein a scan
operation by said first scanning means and said second
scanning means generates image data until acceptance of
said specification to complete scanning documents.

9. A document scanning method for scanning
25 a document, generating image data, and storing this
image data in specified storage means by using
specified scanning means, comprising the steps of:

accepting a specification for one of document scan
continuation and completion after termination of
scanning of said document by said scanning means;

5 accepting a specification of a specified scan
condition while awaiting said specification whether to
continue scanning documents;

allowing said scanning means to start scanning
documents under a scan condition updated by
a specification most recently accepted by said
10 conditional specification acceptance means in response
to acceptance of said specification to continue
scanning documents; and

storing generated image data as for a series of
documents in said storage means, wherein a scan
15 operation by said first scanning means and said second
scanning means generates image data until acceptance of
said specification to complete scanning documents.